UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.3/51/L.1/Rev.1
24 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
THIRD COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

(As adopted by the Committee at its 2nd meeting,
on 20 September 1996)

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Third Committee are listed in the letter dated 20 September 1996 from the President of the Assembly to the Chairman of the Third Committee (A/C.3/51/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/51/100 and Add.1).

Programme of work

2. The programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (see A/51/250), the relevant General Assembly resolutions on the rationalization of the work of the Third Committee, General Assembly decision 50/465 on the work of the Third Committee and biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1996-1997, and General Assembly resolution 50/227 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields.

List of documents

3. Attention is drawn to the status of preparation of documentation submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Third Committee, which will be issued in an addendum to the present document (A/C.3/51/L.1/Add.1/Rev.1).

Length of statements

4. In accordance with established practice, the Committee has decided to limit statements on all agenda items. The time limit for statements in the general discussion of the various agenda items is 7 minutes for delegations and 15 minutes for representatives of groups of delegations. Secretariat officials will also be limited to seven-minute statements, except when they deliver oral reports. In accordance with the decision of the General Assembly, delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for that day and whenever such meetings are devoted to consideration of the same item. The first statement in exercise of the right of reply may be five minutes, and the second statement should be no longer than three minutes.

Conference facilities and meetings arrangements

5. Taking into account the availability of conference services for the Main Committees of the General Assembly, an average of eight formal meetings a week have been scheduled for the Third Committee. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. In addition, there will be no possibility of extending meetings beyond 6 p.m. or of holding night meetings. In this connection, the General Assembly has reminded delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance in the interest of ensuring effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations. As decided by the Assembly, the requirement that at least one quarter of the members of the Committee must be present to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

Control and limitation of documentation

6. The Committee's attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 50/206 C on the control and limitation of documentation. The Secretariat wishes to emphasize, in particular, paragraphs 6, 7 and 8, in which the Assembly requested, inter alia, restraint on the part of members of all intergovernmental bodies in making proposals containing requests for new reports.

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

7. The General Assembly has requested the Main Committees to make every effort to complete their work by Friday, 29 November 1996.

ANNEX

Proposed programme of work of the Third Committee for the fifty-first session

Programme	Documentation
Tuesday, 17 September	
Consecutive meetings of the Main Committees to elect the Chairpersons (Plenary of the General Assembly)	
Friday, 20 September	
Election of the Bureau and organization of work	
Week of 14-18 October	
Monday, 14 October	
3 p.m.: Introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 100	
Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family	Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1996 (A/51/3, parts I and II) Report of the Secretary-General on the role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (A/51/267) Letter dated 20 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Trujillo Act and the Protocol Amending the Cartagena Agreement (A/51/87)

Programme	Documentation
	Letter dated 5 July 1996 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final documents of the G-7 Summit, held at Lyon, France, from 27 to 29 June 1996 (A/51/208-S/1996/543) Letter dated 28 May 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the results of the 95th Conference and related meetings of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (A/51/210)
6 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on item 100	
Tuesday, 15 October	
3 p.m.: Item 100 - General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 100	
Wednesday, 16 October	
No meetings*	
Thursday, 17 October	
No meetings*	

* The Committee would suspend its work on the understanding that item 45 (Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development) would be discussed in plenary.

Programme	Documentation
Friday, 18 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 101 a/	
Crime prevention and criminal justice	Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1996 (A/51/3, parts I and II) Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/145 and 50/146 (A/51/327) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders Letter dated 5 July 1996 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final documents of the G-7 Summit, held at Lyon, France, from 27 to 29 June 1996 (A/51/208-S/1996/543)
Item 102 a/	
International drug control	Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1996 (A/51/3, parts I and II) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control (A/51/129-E/1996/53) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action

Programme	Documentation
	Report of the Secretary-General containing recommendations on the possible outcome of and organizational matters relating to the proposed special session of the Assembly on the question of international drug control
	Letter dated 6 February 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/68)
	Letter dated 20 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Trujillo Act and the Protocol Amending the Cartagena Agreement (A/51/87)
	Letter dated 3 April 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/93)
	Letter dated 5 July 1996 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the final documents of the G-7 Summit, held at Lyon, France, from 27 to 29 June 1996 (A/51/208-S/1996/543)
	Letter dated 12 August 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/295)
Item 158 a/ Question of elaboration of an international convention against organized transnational crime	
1 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on items 101 and 102	

Programme	Documentation
Week of 21-25 October	
Monday, 21 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 101 and 102 - General discussion (continued)	
Tuesday, 22 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 101 and 102 - General discussion (continued)	
Wednesday, 23 October	
3 p.m.:	
Items 101 and 102 - General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 101 and 102	
Thursday, 24 October	
3 p.m.: Introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 103 - Advancement of women b/	Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1996 (A/51/3, parts I and II) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/51/38) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/51/277)

Programme	Documentation
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of women in the Secretariat (A/51/304)
	Report of the Secretary-General on traffic in women and girls (A/51/309)
	Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (A/51/325)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/50/509) entitled "The advancement of women through and in the programmes of the United Nations system: What happens after the Fourth World Conference on Women?" (A/51/180)
	Letter dated 27 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the joint communiqué issued at the close of the Regional Conference on Migration (A/51/90)
	Letter dated 28 May 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the results of the 95th Conference and related meetings of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (A/51/210)
Item 104	
Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women b/	Report of the Secretary-General (A/51/322)
	Letter dated 27 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the joint communiqué issued at the close of the Regional Conference on Migration (A/51/90)

Programme	Documentation
	Letter dated 28 May 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the results of the 95th Conference and related meetings of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (A/51/210)
6 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on items 103 and 104	
Friday, 25 October	
3 p.m.:	
Items 103 and 104 - General discussion (continued)	
Week of 28 October-1 November	
Monday, 28 October	
10 a.m and 3 p.m.:	
Items 103 and 104 - General discussion (continued)	
Tuesday, 29 October	
3 p.m.:	
Items 103 and 104 - General discussion (continued)	

Programme	Documentation
Wednesday, 30 October	
10 a.m.:	
Items 103 and 104 - General discussion (concluded)	
1 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 103 and 104	
Thursday, 31 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Dialogue with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees followed by introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 105	
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/51/12) Report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on the work of its forty-seventh session (A/51/12/Add.1) Report of the Secretary-General on the new international humanitarian order Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (A/51/367) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (A/51/329)

Programme	Documentation
	Report of the Secretary-General on comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements (A/51/341) Letter dated 10 July 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/206-S/1996/539)
1 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on item 105	
Friday, 1 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Item 105 - General discussion (continued)	
Week of 4-8 November	
Monday, 4 November	
3 p.m.:	
Item 105 - General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 105	
Tuesday, 5 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 108 c/	
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination	Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1996 (A/51/3, parts I and II)

Programme	Documentation
	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/51/18)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
	Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals to supplement the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination
	Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (A/51/301)
	Letter dated 27 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the joint communiqué issued at the close of the Regional Conference on Migration (A/51/90)
Item 109 c/	
Right of peoples to self-determination	Report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries
1 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on items 108 and 109	

Programme	Documentation
Wednesday, 6 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 108 and 109 - General discussion (continued)	
Thursday, 7 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 108 and 109 - General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 108 and 109	
Friday, 8 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 107	
Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations Report of the Secretary-General on progress made at the national, regional and international levels in accomplishing the objectives of the Decade and the programme of activities for the Decade Report of the Secretary-General on a review of existing mechanisms, procedures and programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous people Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on activities of the United Nations system in relation to the Decade

Programme	Documentation
	Note verbale dated 5 August 1996 from the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/293)
1 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on item 107	

Week of 11-15 November

Monday, 11 November

10 a.m.:

Item 107 - General discussion (concluded)

1 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 107

3 p.m.:* Introductory statements and general discussion of:

Item 106 d/

Promotion and protection of the rights of children	Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (A/51/41)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the expert on the impact of armed conflict on children (A/51/306 and Add.1)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child
	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/153

* The meeting will begin with a special presentation by the expert designated by the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive study of the situation of children affected by armed conflict.

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Programme	Documentation
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on international measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
	Letter dated 27 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the joint communiqué issued at the close of the Regional Conference on Migration (A/51/90)
1 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on item 106	
Tuesday, 12 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Item 106 - General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 106	
Wednesday, 13 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 110 (a) e/	
Human rights questions: Implementation of human rights instruments	Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1996 (A/51/3, parts I and II)
	Report of the Human Rights Committee (A/51/40, vols. I and II)
	Report of the Committee against Torture (A/51/44)

Programme	Documentation
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
	Report of the Secretary-General on ensuring financing and adequate staff and other resources for the operations of the human rights treaty bodies
	Report of the Secretary-General on effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the seventh meeting of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies
1 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on item 110 (a)	

Thursday, 14 November

10 a.m.:

Item 110 (a) - General discussion (concluded)

1 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 112 (a)

Programme	Documentation
3 p.m.: Dialogue with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, followed by introductory statements and general discussion of:	
Item 110 (b) e/	
Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms	Report of the Secretary-General on the development of public information activities in the field of human rights
	Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights
	Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances
	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education
	Report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Centre for Human Rights in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights
	Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the rule of law
	Report of the Secretary-General on effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the organizations, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development
	Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Centre for Human Rights

Programme	Documentation
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the United Nations Year for Tolerance (A/51/201)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions
	Letter dated 22 May 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting a joint declaration by the European Union and the United States of America on the elections in Albania (A/51/153)
	Letter dated 18 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/170)
Item 110 (c) e/	
Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives	Information requested in Assembly resolution 48/155 on the situation of human rights in Estonia and Latvia
	Report of the Secretary-General on rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia
	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon and Western Bekaa
	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Kosovo
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Representative on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Programme	Documentation
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the periodic report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cuba
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Rwanda
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the joint report on the situation of human rights in Nigeria
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan
	Letter dated 13 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/80-S/1996/194)

Programme	Documentation
	Letter dated 28 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/189)
	Letter dated 3 July 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/203-E/1996/86)
	Letter dated 8 July 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/204)
	Letter dated 5 August 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/271)
	Note verbale dated 10 September 1996 from the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/51/347)
Item 110 (d) e/	
Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action	Report of the Secretary-General
Item 110 (e) e/	
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/51/36)
6 p.m.: Closure of list of speakers on items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e)	
Friday, 15 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e) - General discussion (continued)	

Programme	Documentation
Week of 18-22 November	
Monday, 18 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e) - General discussion (continued)	
Tuesday, 19 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e) - General discussion (continued)	
Wednesday, 20 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e) - General discussion (continued)	
Thursday, 21 November	
3 p.m.:	
Items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e) - General discussion (continued)	
Friday, 22 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e) - General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.: Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 110 (b), (c), (d) and (e)	

Programme	Documentation
Week of 25-29 November	
Monday, 25 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Action on outstanding draft proposals	
Tuesday, 26 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Action on outstanding draft proposals	
Wednesday, 27 November	
10 a.m.:	
Item 12 - Report of the Economic and Social Council	Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1996 (A/51/3, parts I, II and III)
3 p.m.:	
Action on outstanding draft proposals	
Thursday, 28 November	
Thanksgiving Holiday	
Friday, 29 November (if necessary)	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:	
Action on all outstanding draft proposals	
CONCLUSION OF THE WORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE	

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to table)

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a/ At its 3rd meeting, on 20 September 1996, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, allocated item 158 to the Third Committee. It is proposed to discuss items 101, 102 and 158 jointly. Delegations may make a statement on items 101 and 158 and a separate statement on item 102, if they so wish.

b/ It is proposed to discuss items 103 and 104 jointly. Delegations may make two separate statements, i.e., one on each item, if they so wish.

c/ See General Assembly decision 50/465. Items 108 and 109 are to be discussed jointly. Delegations may make two separate statements, i.e., one on each item, if they so wish.

d/ The General Assembly decided that the report of the Secretary-General on the progress at mid-decade on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children (A/51/256), which is relevant to item 98 (Operational activities for development) and to item 106 should be introduced in plenary and referred also to the Third Committee for consideration under item 106.

e/ See General Assembly decision 50/465. Sub-item (a) is to be discussed separately; sub-items (b), (c), (d) and (e) are to be discussed jointly. Delegations may make one statement under sub-item (a) and two statements under sub-items (b), (c), (d) and (e), but should not make two statements on any one sub-item.